Education Interim Committee

School Safety Advisory Committee Recommendations

Presented by
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The USBE School Safety Advisory Committee was created as a result of *recommendations from the Education Interim Committee* and *direction from the Board* for the Board to take the lead in collaboration on school safety initiatives.

This committee is a collaborative body comprised of representatives from state and local agencies, including:

– *Utah Public Safety*
– *Division of Human Services*
– *Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN)*
– *Legislative offices*
– *Utah School Boards Association*
– *Utah School Superintendents Association*
– *Governor's Office*
– *School Safety Commission*
– *Utah State Board of Education*
– *Local law enforcement*
– *Rural school leadership*

This committee will meet quarterly to discuss current trends, issues, and interventions for a comprehensive and innovative approach to safety for all students.

Key Objectives:

- Collectively determine safe school priorities

- Strategize recommendations for improvement

- Brainstorm possible legislative asks

- Compile foundational pieces for a statewide framework for student and school safety

- Committee members have been asked to gather feedback from their representative groups to inform the work and assist in the prioritization.

School Safety Framework

The 8 foundational conditions:

1. Establishing a positive and supportive school culture
2. Attending to school-based mental health
3. Securing the building, grounds, and transportation
4. Screening, training, and supporting school staff
5. Mitigating student safe school violations
6. Providing digital safety measures
7. Developing community prevention and response partnerships
8. Using a crisis and emergency response protocol including:
   - Natural Disasters
   - Emotional Distress
   - School Violence

These 8 foundational conditions serve as the framework for school safety plans and for the Comprehensive School Safety Framework.

The Framework

Mental Health Supports and Prevention Programs
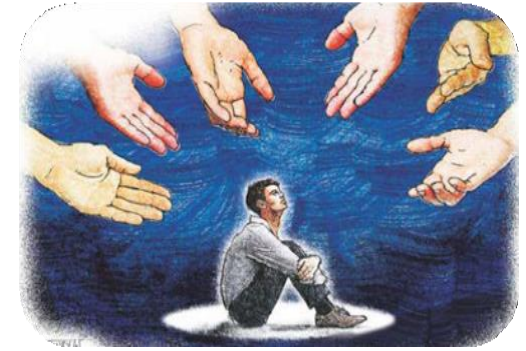

Public Safety and Law Enforcement

Technology and Facilities

Crisis Response and Emergency Planning

Mental Health Supports and Preventative Programs

Priority 1: Increase on-site resources for mental health services.

- *Policy Change: Board establishes distribution formula and parameters through Board rule*

- *Fiscal ask: $30,000,000 ongoing funds to hire/contract with professionals*

Priority 2: Mental health and threat assessment team training for teachers and all school staff

- *Policy Change: Board shall provide training*

- *Fiscal ask: $65,000 ongoing funding for evidence-based curriculum and training*

Priority 3: Threat Assessment and Student Support Teams implemented at the school and/or local level

- *Policy Change: Creation of State and LEA Threat Assessment and Student Support Teams*

- *Fiscal ask: $115,000 ongoing funding for one FTE for DSAMH School-based Mental Health Specialist*

Public Safety and Law Enforcement

Priority 1: Public Safety Law Enforcement Liaison position created by USBE to coordinate inter-agency collaboration between public safety and education entities

- *Policy Change: Establishment of liaison position at USBE*
- *Fiscal Ask: $150,000 ongoing funds for School Public Safety Law Enforcement Liaison*

Priority 2: Tier 1 retirement alterations for law enforcement and certified educators

- *Policy Change: Statutory changes to allow retirees to rejoin the workforce and curtail current teacher and law enforcement shortages*
- *Fiscal Ask: None*

Priority 3: Law enforcement, in coordination with Public Safety, Police Chiefs, and Sheriff's departments statewide, may coordinate additional training to school staff who carry weapons or guns on school property.

- *Policy Change: Possible legislative change to existing concealed carry program*
- *Fiscal Ask: None*

Technology and Facilities

Priority 1: Increase on-site school protection resources through construction, updates, and design.

- *Policy Change: Board to establish distribution formula and spending parameters*
- *Fiscal Ask: $65,000,000 one-time funding, with $33,000,000 each year for 4 subsequent years (years 2-4). Total of $164 million over 4 years*

Priority 2: Create or increase the ability of an existing tool for uniform documentation, reporting and identification.

- *Policy Change: Require Board to create a universal safe and healthy schools reporting tool and amend statutory and Board Rule provisions to create unified and clear definitions*
- *Fiscal Ask: $1,054,625 one-time funding and $234,680 ongoing funding for maintenance of the program.*

Priority 3: Collect and analyze student risk and protective factors data and assess school climate.

- *Policy Change: Refer to priority #2*
- *Fiscal Ask: $115,000 ongoing for USBE Program and Data Analyst position, for incident data collection and additional school safety data including, but not limited to, school climate surveys*

Priority 4: Building construction receives input from fire department and public safety.

- *Policy Change: None*
- *Fiscal Ask: (See priority #1)*

Crisis Response & Emergency Planning

Priority 1: Common language, an all-hazards approach, and uniformity in all drills

- *Policy Change: Eliminate "for fire" from UCA 15A-5-202.5 (2)(b)(ii) and Board to establish standard response protocols*

- *Fiscal Ask: Combined with universal tool for documentation, and reporting creation*